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Nightline WBBM radio

November 19, 1967 - 8:30 PM Chicago

Guest: Robin Moore, author of "The Green Berets" and "The Country Team".

CALLER: ...I should like to ask him if he was a member of the CIA. There's sommany of them. They're in all grounds, they're in all positions, they're everywhere, they're coming out of the woodwork...

JOHN CALLAWAY: Alright, we'll ask him that question. Robin Moore - are you, have you ever been a member of the CIA?

ROBIN MOORE: I have never been a member of CIA. I'm in nowway a member of the CIA. The CIA Has quite overtly opposed me. They at one point sent representatives to the Hirst (?) Publishing Company to try to get them to delete part of my book "The Country Team", uh, I mean I can tell you the dates and the representatives when they came to try to get Avon Books, which is part of Hirst (?), to -- I'm sorry I said "The Country Team", I was wrong. It was "The Green Berets" at that time. To have them delete the Laos section out of the book, and it was,according to a Major General in the Pentagon, Major General Underwood, who told me personally, he said it was the CIA that was against my book and that was why he had had to exert so much pressure against it, and why a movie for two years could not be made of my book. It was -- the movies were killed because of CIA objections to me. So, even though I perhaps may admire a certain successful CIA operations that I know about, I certainly am not only not a member of them but I don't believe if I went to them and said I'd work for you for nothing I don't think I would live 6 months if I went out of the United States working -- so I'm not a member, that's what I'm trying to point out.

CALLAWAY: You're a good commentor on the CIA. Has the CIA been involved in any pperations recently that the

public at large might not be aware of that you'd like to share with us this evening?

MOORE: I think the "Country Team" gives the most succinct view of CIA operations in almost any country. They way it's done, how they go, that I know. Everything that I know, that I've ever learned -- and I'm now writing about music and dope and other things -- everything that I know about Southeast Asia is in "The Country Team" and I go into the CIA at great length, and how they operate there. So everything I know is in that one book.